IN THE CLAIMS

The following claims are presented for examination:

1. (Currently Amended) An apparatus comprising:

a needle/catheter module, wherein the needle/catheter module comprises:

a needle;

a catheter, wherein said catheter receives said needle**, and wherein at least one of said needle or said catheter comprise a bevel**;

a sensor, wherein said sensor senses an **orientation** ~~angle of rotation~~ of ~~at least one of said needle and said catheter about a roll axis that is aligned with a length of said needle~~ **the bevel; and**

pseudo skin, wherein said pseudo skin comprises an opening for receiving said needle and said catheter.

2. – 3. (Canceled)

4. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 1 further comprising:

a receiver for receiving at least one of said needle and said catheter, wherein said receiver is disposed underneath said pseudo skin and covered by said pseudo skin.

5. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein said sensor is physically coupled to said needle.

6. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 1 further comprising a data processing system that receives a signal that is indicative of said ~~angle of rotation~~ **orientation of said bevel**.

7. (Canceled)

8. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 4 further comprising a housing, wherein said receiver is disposed within said housing, and wherein said pseudo skin is substantially co-planar with a surface of said housing.

9. (Canceled)

10. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 1 further comprising:

a force-feedback assembly, wherein at least one of said needle and said catheter detachably couples to said force-feedback assembly.

11. (Canceled)

12. (Currently Amended) An apparatus comprising:

pseudo skin;

a force-feedback assembly, wherein said force-feedback assembly is disposed beneath and is at least partially covered by said pseudo skin; and

an end effector, wherein said end effector passes through said pseudo skin to reversibly couple to said force-feedback assembly**, and further wherein said end effector comprises a needle catheter module, wherein said needle-catheter module includes:**

a needle;

a catheter, wherein said catheter receives said needle, and wherein an end of at least one of said needle or said catheter comprises a bevel; and

a sensor, wherein said sensor senses an orientation of said bevel.

13. – 14. (Canceled)

15. (Original) The apparatus of claim 12 further comprising a data processing system, wherein said force-feedback assembly receives a control signal from said data processing system.

16. (Original) The apparatus of claim 15 wherein signals that are indicative of a position of said end effector are transmitted to said data processing system.

17. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 12 further comprising a housing, wherein said force-feedback assembly is disposed within said housing and wherein said pseudo skin is substantially co-extensive with a surface of the housing.

18. (Canceled)

19. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim ~~18~~ **12** further comprising a data processing system, wherein said data processing system receives a signal that is indicative of said orientation of said bevel.

20. – 28. (Canceled).